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THURSDAY—Fair.

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TRAIN BANDITS GIVE BACK A WATCH FOR XMAS.

Details of the Bold Night Robbery of a Pullman Car Between Leavenworth and Kansas City.

Leader Told the Auditor of the Road He Was a Nice Man and Could Keep His Pass and Timepiece.

Three Men Made the Conductor and Porter Stand in a Corner and "Went Through" Seven Passengers.

BANDITS' HAUL IN A PULLMAN CAR.

Five watches.
Three Diamond Rings.
Five hundred dollars in money.
Refused to Take.
A railroad official's watch.
A collection of passes.
A bank check.

Leavenworth, Kan., Dec. 20.—Details of the robbery of passengers on a Missouri Pacific train, from St. Louis to Omaha, by three bandits, between Leavenworth and Kansas City, last night, have been obtained today.

The robbers boarded the train in Wyandotte, and, taking possession of the Pullman sleeping car, forced the seven passengers to stand in the aisle with their hands up. The leader, who was unmasked, searched the passengers for valuables, while two young men who wore masks and manifested some nervousness, kept revolvers leveled at their heads. The conductor and porter on the car were made to stand in a corner with their hands above their heads while the robbery was in progress.

Among the persons robbed was R. W. Swart, an auditor of the road. He says he talked with the leader of the bandits, who gave him back his railroad passes and said he was such a nice man he would return him his watch as a Christmas present. Amount of Booty Obtained.
In all, five watches, three diamond rings and \$500 were secured. No attempt was made to rob passengers on the other coaches. On reaching Nearman, a telephone station, the highwaymen jumped off, ran to the woods and ran to a farm in sitting for them over a bill. No attempt was made by the trainmen to stop them. The leader was evidently experienced at a business. He said to a passenger who was slow in producing his watch: "Find quickly; this is a hair trigger gun."

Bloodhounds in Pursuit.
Special trains were run to the scene of a robbery during the night, and an attempt was made to track the robbers with bloodhounds at noon today. So far there is no clue. W. S. Kennedy, a real estate agent on the train, when asked about the bloodhounds, said: "I was in the smoking compartment of the sleeper dozing when I was awakened by some one calling to me. Have you got anything?" He had a revolver and was dazed. I pulled out my pocketbook and gave it to him, when he took four silver dollars and returned a check to me, saying, "That is no good to me."

PINGREE TAX MEASURE PASSES MICHIGAN HOUSE.

Bill, Providing One Form of Assessment On All Property, Is Now Before Senate.

Lansing, Mich., Dec. 20.—The House today passed the Pingree joint resolution, submitting to the people a constitutional amendment to permit similar taxation on all forms of property. The vote was 88 to 8.

Notice for reconsideration of the resolution was made, but was later withdrawn. The question of submitting the constitutional amendment is pending in the Senate. It has been referred to a special Senate committee, with instructions to report next Wednesday night.

BIG CUSTOM HOUSE SWINDLE IN HAVANA.

Nine of the Appraisers Arrested Charged with Conspiring with Merchants.

Havana, Dec. 20.—Nine of the appraisers of the Custom House staff were arrested today, charged with being in collusion with many Havana merchants to swindle the Government.

The swindle is said to have been accomplished by classifying valuable goods in cheap classes.

Many merchants are likely to be arrested within the next few days.

JURYMAN LOST HIS WAY.

Abraham Cortelyou Met Some Friends on His Way to Court.

Abraham Cortelyou, juror No. 2 in the \$50,000 suit for royalties and commissions brought by Lucius J. Phelps and Samuel K. Bingle against the New Brunswick Rubber Company, did not appear in court yesterday at the New Brunswick.

When the court was opened at 10 o'clock all the jurors answered to their names except Juror Cortelyou, and though he was sought in his house and store no trace of him could be found.

It is said that Cortelyou met a number of social friends on his way to court and forgot all about the case.

Woodruff's Secretary a Bankrupt.
Ellis W. Lane, private secretary to Lieutenant Governor Woodruff, yesterday filed with the clerk of the United States District Court, Brooklyn, his petition as a voluntary bankrupt. He listed his liabilities at \$5,022.77, with no assets.

TEACHERS' SALARIES REDUCED FOR NEXT YEAR.

In the Boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx the Teachers Must Face a Retrenchment of About \$600,000.

Board Puts Back Salaries to Where They Stood Last May, Except for Ahearn Law Mandatory Increases.

A Large Proportion of the City Teachers Will Suffer a Deduction of from 15 to 20 Per Cent.

The School Board for the Boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx, at its meeting yesterday afternoon, began a process of retrenchment in salaries. As a consequence a large proportion of teachers and principals will find their salaries for 1900 to be from 15 to 20 per cent less than they were for the latter two-thirds of 1899. It is estimated that the cut in salaries will mean a saving to the city and a consequent loss to the teachers of about \$600,000.

The matter came up through a report of the Joint Committee on Teachers and Finance, and the nature of the report showed that the oft-repeated warnings of Mayor Van Wyck to keep within the limits of the appropriation allowed by the budget of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for 1900 had been heeded. The committee presented the following resolutions:

A Plan to Reduce Pay.
Resolved, That the salary schedule adopted by this board on May 17 last be, and the same is hereby repealed, to take effect December 31, 1899.
Resolved, That all teachers, except those affected by Chapter 417 of the Laws of 1899, be paid on and after January 1, 1900, at the same rates of salary they received in May last, provided, however, that no woman teacher shall receive less than \$500 per annum, and no man teacher less than \$600 per annum.

Keeping Within the Law.
Resolved, That all principals and teachers affected by Chapter 417 of the Laws of 1899 be paid on and after January 1, 1900, the minimum mandatory salaries of that chapter.

The resolutions were passed. Their effect will be to place back all salaries to the figures at which they stood previous to the increases made on account of the Ahearn law, which has the effect of Chapter 417 of the Laws of 1899, and then to add only minimum mandatory increases.

The references to the minimum salaries of \$500 for women teachers and \$600 for men teachers are in accordance with the provisions of the Ahearn law, which fix these sums as the minimum salaries to be paid to teachers in New York.
The teachers who will be affected are those whose salaries were increased in proportion to the time in service increase directed by the Ahearn law, and those teachers who find their salaries seriously reduced.

LINER OCEANIC 30 HOURS OVERDUE.

Her Non-Arrival at Queenstown Causes Some Anxiety—1,800 People on Board.

Queenstown, Dec. 21.—Considerable anxiety is felt regarding the White Star steamship Oceanic, Captain Cameron, which left New York on December 13. She is thirty hours overdue.

There are about 1,400 passengers on board the Oceanic, and a crew of 400.

CHARGED CORPORATION IN COURT WITH BRIBERY.

Lawyer Produced Witnesses, Who Said Metropolitan Railway Company Tried to Buy Testimony.

During the trial of the case of Hugh Gribben against the Metropolitan Street Railway Company, wherein the plaintiff asks \$50,000 damages for injuries sustained in falling from a horse car on the Second Avenue line, on July 2, 1894—before Justice Andrews and a jury in the Supreme Court yesterday, Gribben's attorney charged the defendant with attempting to bribe his witnesses.

Mrs. Norma Livock, of No. 893 Second Avenue, was one of the plaintiff's witnesses. She had testified seeing Gribben fall off the car.

Q. Are you acquainted with David J. Lynch, whose name was mentioned a short time ago as plaintiff's lawyer? A. Yes.

Q. Has he called upon you and offered you money if you would testify for the railroad company? A. Yes.

Mrs. Livock said that the last time Lynch called upon her was Thursday night. Mr. Kilgannon, another witness, said that Lynch called upon him 137 times by the count.

The company's lawyer claimed that it had been in no way shown that Lynch represented the railway.

The jury is still out.

BUCHTEL COLLEGE DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Building of the Universalist Institution at Akron, O., Goes Up in Smoke.

2220 Akron, Ohio, Dec. 20.—Buchtel College was destroyed this evening by fire which burned furiously for three hours. The fire started in the attic, and the entire upper portion of the structure, 400 feet long and four stories in height, was in flames when the firemen arrived.

The college occupied an audience said to be the highest point in Ohio, and the water pressure was low. Students and professors living in the building were at supper in the basement and all occupied. Little furniture was saved, and the museum and library, the former especially valuable, were entirely destroyed.

The loss is estimated at \$300,000, with about \$75,000 insurance. The college was founded by the Universalists and erected in 1871, John R. Buchtel contributing \$500,000.

BEATRICE HARRADEN'S BRITISH ANSWER TO OLIVE SCHREINER.

The Author of "Ships That Pass in the Night" Reproaches the Author of "The Story of an African Farm" with Disloyalty.

Miss Schreiner's Pro-Boer Letters to the Journal Arouse Miss Harraden's Ire—England's Bluest Blood Is in a Fever to Volunteer for Service in South Africa.



OFFICER AND NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS OF THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH'S REGIMENT.

ONE OF THE VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WAR AND HIS REGIMENT.

The Duke of Marlborough has volunteered to join the Imperial Yeomanry that is being raised in England, with some of his regiment, the Oxfordshire Yeomanry.

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LONDON, Dec. 20.—Beatrice Harraden writes to the Daily Mail from California: "I was told yesterday it had been reported in some English papers that I had said in America that, if I were a man I would go to fight for the Boers. Of course, what I said was that I would go to fight the Boers."

"I cannot resist troubling you with these few lines, even, although there might be no truth in the message, which has travelled 7,000 miles to reach me out here in California, where I am staying for a few weeks. It is wounding to one's pride, one's intense love of country and one's passionate anxiety over our difficulties that there should be the least possibility of being misunderstood."

"While in New York I saw representatives from the New York Journal, Times and other papers, but there was no misstatement made in any of these interviews, so the mistake, if any, probably arose on the other side. The New York Journal wished me to write articles on the war as a sort of answer to Miss Schreiner's so-called manifesto to the American people."

MISS HARRADEN AMAZED AT OLIVE SCHREINER.

"I was not able to do that, not having sufficient knowledge or ability for dealing with political issues, but I was glad to have the opportunity of commenting somewhat on her amazing attitude, for it does seem amazing indeed that any one calling herself a subject of our Queen, declaring herself to be bound by the strongest ties to Great Britain, should choose this moment to give forth utterances calculated to inflame the anti-British party in the States against England, at a time, too, when feeling of the most friendly nature between the two nations was making itself steadily felt."

"Even if Miss Schreiner mourns over what she thinks are England's mistakes, surely in such a case as this the dignity of grief should have been silence. And then, again, considering that those who follow art and letters and science have a great deal of power in fostering pleasant feelings and good understanding between the two Anglo-Saxon powers of the world, it seems regrettable that an eminent woman of letters like Miss Schreiner should have thought it necessary to use her influence to cause even the slightest flutter of adverse criticism."

SHE NOTICES A GREAT CHANGE IN AMERICAN SENTIMENT.

"However, it all came to nothing. Dr. Alfred Hillier's masterly article in the Times was copied into most of the papers all over America, East and West. I myself, out here in the West, am agreeably surprised in the tone of the Western papers, which were formerly strongly anti-British. In fact, I notice that a great change of sentiment has taken place in three years."

This is probably due to our attitude during the Spanish war, but perhaps also to the growing conviction that our ambitions and destinies are, after all, the same.

"America, now entering on her policy of expansion, with its many difficulties, complications and responsibilities, begins to understand something of the old country's mind and movements, just as a younger member of a community suddenly thrust into the complications of the outside world, realizes in a flash of light something of the stress and strain endured by those who have been pressing forward all the time. Everything looks different in that flash of light—blunders, failures, ambitions, pride, power and triumph."

behind.

The British available regulars now in Africa are 70,000; colonial troops, 25,000. The reinforcements provided are: Volunteers, 7,000; yeomanry, 5,000; First Division, 21,000; Sixth Division, 11,000; Seventh Division, 11,000; new regular cavalry 1,200; drafts to fill vacancies, 22,000. Canadians

his position desperate, as it would be fatal for him to attack. He must either retreat quickly while he can cut his way through the comparatively few Boers in the rear or be as completely invested as Kimberley. Buller and the Boers are watching each other for loopholes, both armies behind intrenchments, while Buller's guns, which he was compelled to abandon during the disastrous battle, are reported to be lying untouched on the ground between the two armies, neither daring to venture out to get them.

The position of Ladysmith and Kimberley is growing more desperate daily. Already there is much talk in London of the possibility of White making a last desperate effort to cut his way through with the best men in his force, leaving all the unit

behind.

Lord Roberts sails on Saturday. Lord Kitchener is travelling by special train from Omdurman to Alexandria. The cruiser Isis is waiting there to take him to Malta. Buller and the Boers are watching each other for loopholes, both armies behind intrenchments, while Buller's guns, which he was compelled to abandon during the disastrous battle, are reported to be lying untouched on the ground between the two armies, neither daring to venture out to get them.

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THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH, LIEUTENANT IN THE OXFORDSHIRE YEOMANRY.

ENGLAND'S NOBLEST MEN RUSH TO VOLUNTEER.

The Duke of Marlborough One of the First Lord Chesham, Viscount Valentia and the Earl of Lonsdale and Others.

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LONDON, Dec. 20.—The call for volunteers has aroused great enthusiasm in all Britain, except Ireland. There have been many thousands more offers than can be accepted.

Lord Chesham, who is to command the Rough Riders, or Imperial Yeomanry, as they are to be called, has established headquarters adjoining the War Office in Pall Mall for the organization of his force.

The Secretary of War has appointed Viscount Valentia, Colonel Lucas and Colonel Long, M. P., to assist him. Lord Lonsdale will be his chief secretary, as Boer volunteers to Wood. The Marquis of Lansdowne has written a letter proposing a scheme to raise funds in every part of England to help furnish the equipment.

The City of London has taken the lead, offering to raise and equip a regiment of 1,000 men for the infantry. A meeting of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen this afternoon voted £250,000. Many thousands more were immediately subscribed by individuals and municipalities. The Government immediately accepted the city's offer. Lord Rothschild has subscribed \$5,000 to the fund.

Mr. Wolsey has named the regiment the City of London Imperial Volunteers. The freedom of the city is to be given to every man in it, which means that their families will be cared for. The regiment leaves within fifteen days.

Men of high social position everywhere are volunteering, most wanting to go as Rough Riders. Some of the volunteers in the list are the Duke of Marlborough, Viscount Valentia, Lord Valentia, Lord Chesham, the Earl of Lonsdale, Lord Grosvenor, Captain Doyle, Sir Elliot Lees, the Hon. Ernest Plunket, Sir Howard Vincent, Earl Dufferin, Lord Kenyon, Lord Anson, Sir James Miller, Viscount Galloway and the following members of Parliament: Douglas Tennant, Sir Dickson Forster, Herbert Hodge, W. H. Long and Colonel Chichester.

Other volunteers are Lord Harcourt, Lord Bolton, Sir Thomas Fowles and the Earl of Scarborough.

The Duke of Marlborough is a Lieutenant in the Oxfordshire Hussars, Prince of Wales's Light Infantry in the Norfolk troop. The Rough Riders will eventually number 8,000. Lord Chesham starts with 3,000 as soon as they can be organized.

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